

REMARKS

The Examiner has issued a Restriction of the above-identified patent application under 35 U.S.C. 121 as follows:

Group I, claim(s) 1-5, 32-42, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide comprising sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleic sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, vector, host cell and method of producing a canine receptor activator of NF-kB.

Group II, claim(s) 6-24, drawn to an immunogenic composition and vaccine composition comprising a canine receptor activator of NF-kB.

Group III, claim(s) 25 and 26, drawn to an antibody or antibody fragment.

Group IV, claim(s) 27 and 28, drawn to a method for inhibiting canine receptor activator of NF-kB ligand activity comprising administering an antibody to a mammal.

Group V, claim(s) 29-31, drawn to a method for inhibiting receptor activator of NF-kB ligand activity comprising administering a receptor activator of NF-kB ligand immunogenic composition to a mammal.

Group VI, claim(s) 43, drawn to a method for inhibiting receptor activator of NF-kB ligand activity in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a nucleic acid vector.

Group VII, claim(s) 44 and 45, drawn to a stable cell line.

In a complete response to the requirement of Restriction, the Applicants elect Claims 1-5 and 32-42, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide comprising sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleic sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, vector, host cell and method of producing a canine receptor activator of NF-kB, without traverse. Since the Applicants have elected Group I, Applicants believe that the species election is now moot.

No fees are believed to arise due to this filing, however, if any additional fees are required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0365.

The Applicants believe that the next step in the prosecution of this Application should be in the form of a Notice of Allowance and such action is respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner should have any questions regarding this Amendment and/or patent Application, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney.

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Respectfully submitted,



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